

Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A fluid filter assembly comprising:

a housing having an end and defining a cavity;

a first tube supported by said end and in fluid communication with said cavity;

a diverter arranged within said cavity and including first and second sides with said first side proximate to said end, said diverter including a base having a first wall on said first side proximate to said first tube, said first wall surrounding an opening associated with said first tube, said base including a first material and said first wall including a second material different than said first material and which is supported on said first material, said first tube in fluid communication with said second side, and a second wall on said first side engaging said end and provided by said second material, said second wall defining a boundary where said second wall seals against said end, and said first wall is unbounded by said second wall; and

a filter media having a portion supported by said second side, said second wall fluidly separated from said opening by said first wall and said filter media.

2. (Previously presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said first wall is cylindrical and defines an aperture with an edge of said first wall in sealing engagement with said end of said housing.

3. (Previously presented) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein said diverter includes a hole extending between said first and second sides and in fluid communication with said aperture and said opening.

4. (Previously presented) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein said second material defines at least a portion of said first side including said edge of said first wall.

5. (Previously presented) A fluid filter assembly comprising:
a housing having an end and defining a cavity;
a first tube supported by said end and in fluid communication with said cavity;

a diverter arranged within said cavity, said diverter extending along a longitudinal axis and including first and second sides with said first side proximate to said end, said diverter including a first wall on said first side proximate to said first tube and in sealing engagement with at least one of said first tube and said end, said first tube in fluid communication with said second side, wherein said first wall is offset radially from said longitudinal axis and defines an aperture with an edge of said first wall in sealing engagement with said end of said housing, wherein said diverter includes a first material and a second material secured to said first material, said second material defining at least a portion of said first side including said edge of said first wall, wherein

said second material defines a side wall spaced from said first wall and in engagement with said end of said housing; and

a filter media having a portion supported by said second side.

6. (Previously presented) A fluid filter assembly comprising:

a housing having an end and defining a cavity;

a first tube supported by said end and in fluid communication with said cavity;

a diverter arranged within said cavity and including first and second sides with said first side proximate to said end, said diverter including a first wall in said first side proximate to said first tube and in sealing engagement with at least one of said first tube and said end, said first tube in fluid communication with said second side, wherein said first wall defines an aperture with an edge of said first wall in sealing engagement with said end of said housing, wherein said diverter includes a first material and a second material secured to said first material, said second material defining at least a portion of said first side including said edge of said first wall, wherein said second material defines a central wall extending away from said first wall, said central wall in engagement with said end of said housing; and

a filter media having a portion supported by said second side.

7. (Original) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said filter media includes a central opening with said first tube offset from said central opening, said end supporting a second tube in fluid communication with said cavity, and said filter media arranged between said first and second tubes.

8. (Original) The assembly according to claim 7, wherein said housing includes a case defining said end and a cover opposite said end secured to said case, said cover supporting a third tube in fluid communication with said cavity, and said filter media arranged between said second and third tubes.

9. (Previously presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said base supports said filter media with said first wall comprising a gasket supported by said base, said base extending radially outwardly beyond said filter media.

10. (Previously presented) A fluid filter diverter comprising:
first and second sides spaced from one another;
a first material and a second material supported on said first material,
said second material defining at least a portion of said first side; and
a filter media supported by said second side, said first side having a first wall defining an enclosed aperture with a hole extending from said enclosed aperture to said second side, and said second material providing said first wall

and a second wall, said second wall on said first side, said hole outside of said second wall.

11. (Original) the diverter according to claim 10, wherein said first material is a plastic and said second material is an elastomer.

12. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 10, wherein said filter media defines a central opening and said second side includes a center tube provided by said first material at least partially within said central opening, said first material providing a base with said filter media secured to said base, and said center tube extending from said base to provide a unitary structure.

13. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 10, wherein said first wall is cylindrical with an edge of said first wall defined by said second material.

14. (Currently amended) A fluid filter diverter comprising:
first and second sides spaced from one another;
a first material and a second material supported on said first material,
said second material defining at least a portion of said first side; and
a filter media secured to said second side, said [fist] first side having a first wall defining an enclosed aperture with a hole extending from said enclosed

aperture to said second side, said second material defining at least a portion of said first wall, wherein said second material defines a side wall spaced from said first wall, and said second material defining a central wall arranged between said first wall and said side wall.

15. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 10, wherein said second material is adhered to said first material.

16-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein said second wall adjoins said first wall and extends therefrom.

24. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 12, wherein said center tube extends along a longitudinal axis, and said hole is offset radially from said longitudinal axis.

25. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 12, wherein said center tube includes rings and legs providing a perforate structure.

26. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 10, wherein an adhesive is arranged on said second side, and said filter media is embedded in said adhesive securing said filter media to said second side.

27. (Previously presented) The diverter according to claim 10, wherein said first wall is unbounded by said second wall.